



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 68th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space**

25 June - 02 July 2025

Agenda Item 5: “Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes”

On a draft resolution of the UNGA “Space Science and Technology
for Promoting Peace”

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of Ukraine, I express our firm opposition to the draft initiative presented by the Russian Federation under the pretence of promoting peace in outer space.

This initiative is not a genuine effort to protect outer space. It is a strategic distortion by a state that has repeatedly and egregiously violated international law — including the UN Charter — by launching a war of aggression against my country, occupying sovereign Ukrainian territory, and targeting civilians with military force.

As recognized by multiple United Nations General Assembly resolutions, the Russian Federation is not a peacebuilder. It is an aggressor that continues to use both terrestrial and space-based technologies to fuel its war machine. This includes the integration of satellite systems for reconnaissance and targeting, as well as the repeated use of ballistic and hypersonic missiles with suborbital flight paths.

On 21 November 2024, the Russian military launched an RS-26 Rubizh intercontinental ballistic missile — which exited the Earth’s atmosphere — against a civilian target on Ukrainian

territory. This was a deeply alarming escalation and the first recorded use of a space-traversing weapon in an active conflict against a sovereign state.

Such actions run counter to the spirit of the Outer Space Treaty and threaten the peaceful character of outer space that this Committee is mandated to preserve. A country cannot on the one hand weaponize space and on the other claim leadership in safeguarding it. It is therefore unacceptable for the Russian Federation to speak here, in this Committee, as though it were a guardian of peace.

Mr. Chair,

Ukraine believes that this Committee must go beyond words. We call for increased COPUOS oversight and accountability mechanisms to monitor and address the militarization of outer space. Peaceful uses must be more than a principle — they must be protected through transparency, information-sharing, and international scrutiny of state behaviour.

The credibility of COPUOS depends on our collective resolve to preserve space for peaceful purposes and to ensure that those who violate this mission do not reshape it to suit their own ends.

Ukraine remains committed to the peaceful, equitable, and responsible use of outer space in accordance with international law.

We urge all delegations to reject this cynical initiative. The future of space must be shaped by those who respect peace, not those who wage war.

Thank you.